



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2003 Senate Bill 21	Senate Amendment 1
<i>Memo published: April 7, 2003</i> <i>Contact: Nick Zavos, Staff Attorney (266-1308)</i>	

Senate Bill 21 provides three types of protection to pharmacists who do not want to be involved in causing an abortion or causing the death of a person. First, the bill provides that a pharmacist licensed by the Pharmacy Examining Board (the board) may not be required to dispense a prescribed drug or device if the pharmacist has *reason to believe* that the drug or device would be used for causing an abortion or causing the death of a person. Second, the bill provides that a pharmacist's refusal to dispense a prescribed drug or device if the pharmacist *has reason to believe* that the drug or device would be used for causing an abortion or causing the death of a person may not be the basis of a claim for damages or disciplinary action by the board. Third, the bill defines employment discrimination to specifically include discrimination on the basis of a pharmacist's refusal to dispense a prescribed drug or device if the pharmacist *believes* that the drug or device would be used for causing an abortion or causing the death of a person.

Senate Amendment 1 changes the standard in the first two situations from "reason to believe" to "believes." Thus, the standard for all three protections is that the pharmacist *believes* that the drug or device would be used for causing an abortion or causing the death of a person.

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